

BRING PROTECTION

An Exercise In Hollywood Clichés

by: Brandon Mendelson

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Cast of Characters

<u>Janet Elliot:</u>	A shy, dumpy female voice actor, 20's
<u>Van Dyne:</u>	Egotistical aging male movie star, 50's
<u>The Director:</u>	Earnest male movie director, 40's

Scene

Inside a cramped Los Angeles recording studio, recording a movie trailer's voice-over

Time

Now.

ACT 1

SETTING: A sweltering Los Angeles recording studio.

AT RISE: JANEST is facing THE DIRECTOR, who is sitting off stage.

JANET

(Clears her throat as she prepares to read.)

In a world of --

VAN DYNE

(Barges into the room holding a script.)

Let's get this show on the road! I have places to go and people to see.

JANET (Softly)

But today is the only day we can do this.

VAN DYNE

I said, People. To. See.

THE DIRECTOR (Mumbling)

(Removes an object from his pocket and takes two pills.)

I knew it was a little too quiet in here.

VAN DYNE

Hey, don't you die on me, man.

THE DIRECTOR (Sarcastically)

Like I haven't heard that one before. Action!

JANET

(Clears her throat and readies the script.)

In a world of --

VAN DYNE

Yadda. Yadda. Yadda. Monkeys with typewriters could write better.

THE DIRECTOR

VAN DYNE

Cut!

It's true.

THE DIRECTOR

What part of cut don't you understand? Take it from the top.

JANET (Irritated)

In a world of limited possibilities, one man will rise up --

VAN DYNE

And ... fuck. ... Line?

JANET

(Throws her hands up as if to say, "What now?" She whispers ...)

And change everything.

VAN DYNE

Exsqueeze me?

JANET (Whispering)

... And change everything

VAN DYNE

Does she come with a volume button?

THE DIRECTOR (Annoyed)

Do it again.

JANET

In a world of limited possibilities, one man will --

VAN DYNE (Bored)

Change everything ... Are we done yet?

JANET

(Janet throws her script in the air. Everyone stops to stare. She quickly picks up the papers while muttering.)

This. This is a sorry sight ...

VAN DYNE

What crawled up your ass? Is it something you need lotion and a special comb to get rid of?

JANET

(Smacks her forehead with the script in disbelief.)

We're going to be the laughing stock of the whole town!

THE DIRECTOR

Right. Right. VD, there are ladies present.

VAN DYNE (Laughing)

V. D.? Hilarious!

THE DIRECTOR (Annoyed)

I'm one trailer away from retirement, please shut up so we can end this.

JANET

In a world of limited possibilities, one man will rise up.

VAN DYNE

And. Change. Everything.

JANET

This Summer, Van Dyne is ... The Penetrator.

VAN DYNE

That's what she said!

JANET (Screaming)

ARRRRRRRRRRGGGGGGGGGGHHH!

(Walks over and kicks VAN DYNE in the testicles.)

Suck on that demon seed!

VAN DYNE

(Collapses while holding his groin.)

THE DIRECTOR

HA! HA!

JANET

That's what happens when a man can't perform! ... Now, where were we?

VAN DYNE (high-pitched voice)

Is that all you got?

JANET

You can't get too much of a good thing!

(Turns around and kicks Van Dyne.)

THE DIRECTOR

Come hell or high water, we will finish this. Van Dyne, if we don't, I'm leaving you in here with her. Alone. ... Now ...action!

JANET

In a world of limited possibilities, one man will rise up -

VAN DYNE (High pitched voice)
And change everything ...

JANET

This Summer, Van Dyne is ... The Penetrator. ... On May 3rd, you
better bring protection.

THE END